WETLANDS FIELD FORM

SITE DESCRIPTION

Site ID:_____ Site Name:_____ Field Staff:_____

Site Identification and Characteristics

Town: Subbasin Ownership::

Aerial Photo(s) ID: USGS Quad Date:

Area (sf): Length: Width:

Nearest Rd: GPS (NAD 83) N_____ W_____

DEPWQ Classification Associated with Water Resource: _____

General Site Conditions: _____

_____

Current Uses/Activities within Potential Restoration Site

Parking Lot Junkyard Abandoned Industrial Dumping Borrow Area

Fill Excavation Active Agr. Abandoned Agr. Other_____

Hazardous Waste Sites or Potential Sources of Contamination: Y / N

Comment: _____

Habitat Types Present:

Wetland : Forested Scrub-Shrub Emergent Open Water

Upland: Forest Shrubland Oldfield Grassland Pasture

Agricultural Field Turf Sparsely Vegetated Unvegetated

Predominant Habitat Types: _____

Vegetation

Dominant Species	Abundance (% Cover of Area)

SITE DESCRIPTION

Invasives/Exotics within Restoration Site:

Phragmites P.Loosestrife E. Buckthorn Honeysuckle Knotweed Barberry
Milfoil Chestnut Fanwort Pondweed Naiad Hydrilla

Other: _____

Comments: _____

Wildlife Indicators Within Restoration Site:

Beaver Pond Snags Stumps Sandy Banks Rookery Vernal Pools
Logs Cavities Burrows Mud flats Sandy Beach Nest boxes
Islands Persistent open waters in Winter Other _____
Wildlife Observed:_____

ADJACENT AREA DESCRIPTION

Surrounding Land Use (within 300 feet) of Restoration Area

Developed	%		Undeveloped	%
Residential			Upland Forest	
Dense (< 1/2 acre lots)			Deciduous	
Moderate (1/2 to one acre lots)			Mixed	
Light (> one acre lots)			Coniferous	
Commercial			Wetlands	
Industrial			Forested	
Agricultural			Scrub-Shrub	
Manicured Park or Turf			Emergent	
Abandoned (Brownfield)			Surface Waters	
Other:			Abandoned Field	
			Shrubland (upland)	
			Other:	
TOTAL			TOTAL	

Wildlife Indicators Adjacent to Restoration Site (within 300 feet):

Beaver Pond Pools Snags Stumps Sandy Banks Rookery Vernal

Logs Cavities Burrows Mud flats Sandy Beach Nest boxes

Islands Persistent open waters in Winter Other

_____

Wildlife Observed:_____

Invasives/Exotics within 300' of Restoration Site:

Phragmites P.Loosestrife E. Buckthorn Honeysuckle Knotweed Barberry

Milfoil Chestnut Fanwort Pondweed Naiad Hydrilla

Other:

_____

Comments:

_____

Nonpoint Pollution Adjacent to Restoration Site (within 300 feet)

Ag/crops Ag/tilled Ag/animals impervious (roadways, parking lots, etc) Septic

CSO's Golf Course Construction Sites Roadway Outfalls Industrial Outfalls

Closest Roadway _____

Comments/Notes/Sketches:

SITE ANALYSIS

Current Impairments (circle the appropriate value for each factor)

Factor	Low	Medium	High
Points	1	2	3
Coverage of Exotics	< 5 %	6-25%	> 25 %
Exotic/Invasive Plants	Few (1 species)	Some (2-3 species)	Many (>3 species)
% Cover Fill Material	< 5%	6 - 25%	> 25%
Erosion	Little (visible, but no impact observable)	Moderate (visible with impact visible)	Considerable (clear impact/ degradation)
Sedimentation	Little (visible, but no impact observable)	Moderate (visible with impact visible)	Considerable (clear impact/ degradation)
Outfall	None	1 Present	>1 Present
Evidence of Illegal Dumping	No Evidence	Some Evidence	Considerable Evidence
Hazardous Waste Sites within or adjacent to the site	None	Localized Contamination within the site	Widespread Contamination within the site
Adjacent Land Use	Light/Undeveloped	Moderately Developed	Heavily Developed
Altered Hydrology (ditches, berm, undersized culvert)	Not Present	Minor Impact	Moderate to Severe Impact
Non-Point Pollution Sources	0-1 Sources	2-3 Sources	>3 Sources
Landscape Position	Contiguous with natural habitat on all sides.	Partially isolated from natural habitat by development.	Largely isolated from natural habitat by development
Off-Road Vehicle Use	None	Some	Heavy

Total Score for Impairments =
Impairment Rank: (circle) Low 13-21, Medium 22-30,High 31-39

Description of Impairments:

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Potential Solutions:

_____
_____
_____

SITE ANALYSIS

Indicators of Potential Benefits of Restoration

- *Circle all benefits that apply to the potential restoration site and enter into score box.*
- *Add up total number of circles to determine ranking: Few 0-11, Some 12-22, Many 23-34.*
- *Apply ranking to the Quality of Restoration Opportunity Table found on page 7 of this form.*

☐ **Water Quality (including nutrient/toxicant reduction): (***Enter the # of factors that apply to the potential restoration site in the box to the left***)**

1. Wetland is upstream of a public water supply.
2. The restored site can be designed to have a seasonally or permanently flooded or permanently saturated water regime.
3. Site has a low gradient (is relatively flat) or could be restored to a low gradient wetland.
4. Once restored channel flow through the wetland is likely to, or can be designed to be likely to overtop the banks of a channel and come into contact with the surrounding vegetated wetland.
5. Once restored the site could support dense emergent or woody vegetation
6. Restoration will reduce impacts from non point sources containing sediment, nutrients or toxicants.
7. Restoration will reduce impacts from point source discharge(s)
8. Other_____

☐ **Fisheries/Wildlife Habitat:(***Enter the # of factors that apply to the potential restoration site in the box to the left***)**

1. Restored site will increase the diversity of natural habitat types in the local area.
2. Restored site improves the connectivity of one wildlife habitat area to another by improving or widening a corridor between two or more unaffected sites.
3. Site is located within or adjacent to an identified habitat for rare species or a priority natural community as identified in the 1999-2001 Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas.
4. Restored site will provide waterfowl nesting/brood habitat.
5. Restored site will provide fisheries habitat (isolated pond > 3 ft. deep)
6. Restored site is adjacent to pond or stream and will provide fish spawning/ juvenile fish habitat.
7. Restored site will contain a vernal pool
8. Other_____

☐ **Flood Control: (***Enter the # of factors that apply to the potential restoration site in the box to the left***)**

1. Site watershed contains a high degree of impervious surface and the restored site will help offset this.
2. Site has a low gradient (flat) or could be restored to a low gradient wetland to increase flood storage potential.
3. The wetland is associated with one or more watercourses.
4. Site either has a constricted outlet or could be provided with a constricted outlet in the restored condition.
5. Other _____

SITE ANALYSIS

☐ **Recreation:** **(***Enter the # of factors that apply to the potential restoration site in the box to the left***)**

1. Site is part of or adjacent to a recreation area, park, forest or refuge and is accessible to the public for recreation.
2. Fishing could be available adjacent to the site once it has been restored.
3. Hunting could be permitted on the site once it has been restored
4. Hiking may occur once the site has been restored
5. The site will provide opportunities for wildlife observation and study.
6. Off-road public parking will be available near the restoration site.
7. Other_____

☐ **Groundwater Recharge/Discharge:**

(Enter the # of factors that apply to the potential restoration site in the box to the left)

1. Public or private wells occur downstream of the site.
2. The restored site will have gravel or sandy soils in/or adjacent to the site.
3. Restored wetland will contain only an outlet.
4. Signs of groundwater discharge are present (e.g. springs).
5. The restored wetland will exhibit signs of variable water levels.
6. Other_____

TOTAL NUMBER OF POTENTIAL BENEFITS = ☐

Ranking = _____ ***(Few 0-11, Some 12-22, Many 23-34)***

Indicators of Potential Negative Impacts of Restoration

- *Check all boxes that apply to the potential restoration site.*
- *Add up total number of check marks to determine ranking: Few 0-2, Some 3-5, Many 6-8.*
- *Apply ranking to the Quality of Restoration Opportunity Table found on page 7 of this form.*

☐ Access to adjacent areas will be eliminated by restoration project.

☐ Existing fisheries or wildlife habitat will be adversely impacted by the restoration project.

☐ Historic Structures will be impacted by the project.

☐ Rare Species and/or their habitat will be impacted by project.

☐ Agricultural land will be lost as a result of the restoration project.

☐ Industrial/Commercial use of the area will be adversely impacted by the project.

☐ The restoration project could increase the risk of local flooding.

☐ Other_____

TOTAL NUMBER OF POTENTIAL NEGATIVE IMPACTS = ☐

Ranking = _____ ***(****Few 0-2, Some 3-5, Many 6-8****)***

Potential Indicators of Cost

- *Check all boxes that apply to the potential restoration site.*
- *Add up total number of check marks and multiply by the appropriate size factor rating (SFR) for the site:*
  Site Size 1-5 acres = 1 SFR, 6-10 acres = 2 SFR, 11+ acres = 3 SFR.
- *Insert this number into the appropriate ranking: Low 0-6, Medium 7-14, High 15-27*
- *Apply ranking to the Quality of Restoration Opportunity Table found on page 6 of this form.*

☐ **Ownership** (e.g., site is located on private property).

☐ **Construction Access** (e.g., access difficult, site more than 100 ft. from existing road).

☐ **Regrading** (e.g., substantial regrading work is necessary for the potential restoration project).

☐ **Fill Removal** (e.g., substantial amount of fill must be dredged or excavated and removed from the site).

☐ **Revegetation** (e.g., a significant planting and/or seeding effort is necessary for the project.)

☐ **Maintenance Needs** (e.g., the potential restoration site will require regular maintenance work following the completion of the project).

☐ **Removal of Structures** (e.g., on-site structures must be removed with heavy machinery).

☐ **Hazardous Waste** (e.g., on-site hazardous waste clean-up will be required as part of restoration activities).

☐ **Other**_____

TOTAL NUMBER OF POTENTIAL INDICATORS OF COST = ☐

Ranking = _____ ***(****Low 0-6, Medium 7-14, High 15-27****)***

Quality of Restoration Opportunities (circle)

Factor*	Low	Medium	High
	1	2	3
Potential Benefits	Few	Some	Many
Potential Negative Impacts	Many	Some	Few
Potential Costs	High	Medium	Low
Size of Wetland Restoration Site	Small (1-5 acres)	Medium (6-10 acres)	Large (>10 acres)

Total Score for Restoration Opportunities =
Restoration Opportunity Rank: (circle) Low 4 - 6, Medium 7 - 9, High 10 -12

Notes:

_____
_____
_____
_____